

# Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

*"There are no mistakes, no coincidences. All events are blessings given to us to learn from." ~ Elizabeth Kubler-Ross*

*Friday, March 27, 2009*

At a Central Office staff assembly this week, IDOA Commissioner Mark Everson spoke on his government experiences and the IDOA's relationship with the IDOC, and Commissioner Buss and Chief of Staff Ronay recognized employees.

Plainfield Correctional received the Patriot Award at a dinner hosted by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

An IWP volunteer won the Lily Jefferson Award for Community Service, giving the \$500 award to the Wee Ones Nursery.

New Castle Correctional Facility offenders attending worship services this month paid their tithe by collecting approximately \$180 in food items to be contributed to the Christian Love Shelter in New Castle.

6 Northeast Juvenile students assisted the Sisters of the Cloth quilting guild for the Gathering of the Quilters quilt show.

Recently, 2 Parole Agents from the Indianapolis Parole Office spoke to teens at Families Reaching for Rainbows, a systems of care support service by Choices, Inc. The Agents talked about Parole, the IDOC, and making good choices.

Edinburgh's offender population donated \$134 to a facility non-for profit fund that will assist various organizations.

Putnamville Correctional Facility recently held a grand opening of its "Farm Fresh Diner," a collaborative effort with Aramark to provide lunch for staff, on both day and evening shifts, at a nominal fee.

Logansport Juvenile held a CLIFF graduation ceremony recognizing 8 students who completed the 6 month program.

A Pendleton Correctional level one work crew painted bleachers and trim on buildings at Falls Park in Pendleton.

Staff and offenders at Madison Correctional are raising funds to help a local young man purchase a service dog, and a fundraiser breakfast and staff silent auction has been organized. Over \$600 has been raised so far for this cause.

The Shifting Gears operation at Pendleton Correctional donated 75 refurbished bikes to an Indianapolis Goodwill store.

Carlene Heeter, author of *Mama's Tears*, shared her story at the Indianapolis Women's Community Re-Entry Center.

Supervisors and Agents from Indianapolis Parole District #3 recently performed a mini-sweep on all sex offenders who currently reside in DOC-assisted housing. As a result, Agents arrested 3 parolees for technical violations.

Lemuel Vega and 65 volunteers of Christmas Behind Bars delivered food gift bags to offenders at Indiana State Prison.

K-9 handler Christopher Lanning and dog Roxie from Putnamville Correctional Facility are featured in the latest issue of *K-9 Cop* magazine. The photos were taken during International Police Work Dog Association training.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility had 8 offenders graduate this week with their GEDs.

Lee W. Hoard and M. Duane Alsip of the IDOC's Program Review Division recently completed NIC Detention Facility Inspector Training in Aurora, Colorado and helped conduct a mock inspection of the Denver County, Colorado Jail.

Camp Summit held a Recall Assembly this week recognizing staff, reviewing population and spending projections, and going over recidivism rates and the new Youth Services Division plans.

The Wabash Valley offender Fatherhood Program donated \$1,000 to the Riley Children's Foundation.

Westville Correctional welcomed visitors from the U.S. Department of Justice who reviewed the Therapeutic Community. The DOJ's State Policy Advisor spoke positively about the program and was impressed with its operations.

Pendleton Juvenile's Boy Scouts have collected 5,351 pop tabs so far to benefit the Ronald McDonald House.

Plainfield Correctional hosted a tour for 18 students enrolled in the *Seminar in Corrections* class at Indiana University.

8 Northeast Juvenile students debated freedom of religion and citizen's rights in mock congressional hearings. The District Coordinator for "We the People" was a guest judge and Congressman Mark Souder sent certificates.

Indiana Women's Prison's Sheltered Workshop completed an 11,400 piece mailing for the March of Dimes.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner